

found in the textbooks or invited discussions in peer-reviewed publications.

Dr. Upton's research has been almost entirely clinical and he rarely describes a new procedure without medium or long-term outcomes. At the Boston Children's Hospital and Shriners Burns Hospital he has accumulated the largest experience with congenital problems in the world. His collection of hand models of congenital malformations is unique. He has had an exhibit in the Boston Museum of Science for 30 years. He was an active participant in the Joseph Vacanti Tissue Engineering lab for 13 years and worked on cartilage and skeletal constructs and prior to this worked in the Folkman Laboratory at The Children's Hospital.

PROFESSOR NEIL S. HECHT

Neil Hecht is professor of law and Founding Director of the Institute of Jewish Law at Boston University School of Law, where he has taught for almost 50 years. He received Rabbinical Ordination from Yeshiva University, a Juris Doctor from Yale Law School and a research doctorate from Columbia University School of Law.

In 1980 Professor Hecht fulfilled his lifelong dream of introducing Jewish law into the curriculum of a major American law school. Through his efforts, Jewish law is now taught in over thirty law schools, and he was instrumental in creating a permanent Jewish Law Section in the Association of American Law Schools. Moreover, its successful reception at BU Law School led to his founding of The Institute of Jewish Law in 1983, which was established for the purpose of publishing treatises, monographs, and teaching materials. Under its auspices, he has written or edited 36 volumes to date. Among these works are Jewish Jurisprudence (a two-volume commentary on Choshen Mishpat, Jewish Civil Law, which contains the only preface ever written by Rabbi Joseph Solovetchik, zt'l), The Jewish Law Annual, and Controversy and Dialogue in Halachik Sources (a four-volume work in Hebrew and English exploring the nature of controversy and authority, machloket, in Jewish law).

From 1985 to 1986, Professor Hecht served as the Visiting Gruss Professor of Talmudic Civil Law at New York University School of Law. In the 1990s, he also served as co-director of the Joint Project in Jewish Legal Bioethics, a collaborative initiative of the Institute of Jewish Law and Boston University's Schools of Medicine and Public Health. His many professional and public service activities include serving as a founding director on the Board of Directors of the International Association of Jewish Lawyers and Jurists, chairing the Jewish Law Section of the Association of American Law Schools, and becoming an elected member of the American Law Institute.

Among other honors, he was recognized by the Ashmolean Museum of Oxford University, by Boston University School of Law where he received the Silver Shingle Award for distinguished service and the Melton Award for Teaching Excellence, and by Yeshiva University which awarded him the Bernard Revel Memorial Award for his contributions in the field of Jewish legal scholarship.

The relationship between the Hechts and the Rebbe's family dates back to the early part of the 20th Century. Professor Hecht's great-grandfather was a close friend and strong supporter of the Rebbe's grandfather, Grand Rabbi Pinchus Dovid Horowitz, zt'l, when the latter lived in Brooklyn.

SIDNEY AND TOBY (THURM) BLECHNER A'H
EPTOMIZED WHAT GIVING OF SELF TO COMMUNITY MEANS

"V'kol mi she'oskim b'tzarchei tzibur
be'emunah"

Toby, daughter of Menachem Mendel Thurm, founder of World Cheese Company, the first kosher cheese company in the USA, came to America from Germany. Sidney, fortunately and with the hashgacha pratis of God, survived six years in concentration camps and arrived in New York in 1947 where he met his beloved partner to be of 59 years. They married on Lag B'omer 1948, and soon settled in the Roxbury section of Boston.

Though having gone through the fires of Europe, this "ood mootzal may'aish" together with his eishet chayil decided to look only forward and rebuild what their families and communities lost in Europe. They started to build a family and Sidney became successful in the lighting industry. His honesty and integrity were admired by all he came into contact with, Jew and non-Jew alike. Toby, meanwhile, worked tirelessly with the fledgling Roxbury community to build up religious Jewish institutions. Both became active in the Young Israel of Greater Boston, Congregation Beth Pinchas of Roxbury, Maimonides School, and New England Lubavitch Yeshiva. When the Jewish community migrated to Brookline, Sidney made himself and his resources available to help with lighting up the makom Tefilah or makom Limud Torah of many institutions that moved to Brookline.

At the same time, the Blechner family became very close to the Bostoner Rebbe Z'L and Rebbetzin A'H while sharing their philanthropic efforts among CJP, Young Israel of Brookline, Daughters of Israel, Religious Zionists of America, Yeshiva University, Talner Congregation, B'nai Brith, Israel Bonds, and many "matan b'seser" recipients. But it was the special charisma and charm of the Bostoner Rebbe Z'L and his Rebbetzin A'H that attracted Sidney and Toby to daven at the Rebbe's shul. Toby had a special seat next to the Rebbetzin and Sidney especially enjoyed the Rebbe's nusach and warmth on the Yamim Noara'im. They became active supporters of ROFEH as well as the New England Chassidic Center where Sidney was honored as "Man of the Year". Instead of plaques on his office wall, Sidney preferred simple thank you letters as appreciation for the tzedakah and chessed that he and Toby were able to provide to others.

It takes a lot of hakarat hatov for people in today's generation to think back to those who built up a minuscule Torah community of Boston in the 50's to what is has become today for all newcomers to benefit from.

Sidney and Toby Blechner were the patriarch and matriarch of a beautiful family of 4 children, 18 grandchildren who are Roshei yeshiva dedicated to teaching Torah in their communities, professionals in finance, law, education, computers, graphic design and who serve in the Israeli army.

It is therefore most fitting to bestow the "Congregation Bais Pinchas Jubilee Award" in their memory.

THIS YEAR WE CELEBRATE THE 50TH JUBILEE OF CONGREGATION BAIS PINCHAS IN BROOKLINE, MASSACHUSETTS

Receiving the Jubilee Award on behalf of their parents, the Blechner family

It is important for people in today's generation to recognizing and appreciate the good done by those who built up a community of Boston in the 50's to what is has become today for all newcomers to benefit from. Mr. and Mrs. Blechner were dedicated their time and efforts in seeing to it that the Boston community should be successful and

thrive. Sidney and Toby Blechner were the patriarch and matriarch who helped to build and beautify the Boston community, of a beautiful family of 4 children, 18 grandchildren who are to teaching in their communities, professionals in finance, law, education, computers, graphic design and who serve in the Israeli army.

It is therefore most fitting to bestow the "Congregation Bais Pinchas Jubilee Award" in their memory.

Sincerely,
GRAND RABBI NAFTALI Y. HOROWITZ,
Bostoner Rebbe.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOSEPH CROWLEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 13, 2011

Mr. CROWLEY. Mr. Speaker, on October 11, 2011 I voted "no" on House resolution 425, I intended to vote "yes."

VALENTINE RANCH TRIBUTE

HON. SCOTT R. TIPTON

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 13, 2011

Mr. TIPTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Valentine Ranch of Aguilar, Colorado. The ranch was founded in 1908 by Italian immigrant Giovanni Leopoldo Valentini. Valentini was born in Austria in 1869 and immigrated to the United States in 1887, acquiring work at the Engleville Mine in Colorado. Soon thereafter, he changed his name to John Lee Valentine. He married Rachale Conter and the couple had six children.

Over the years, John worked many unique jobs, including being a baker and a saloon keeper. In 1907, he purchased a ranch in Los Animas County. John and his wife lived happily the rest of their lives at the ranch. After John's passing in 1947 and Rachale's in 1950, Gus and June Valentine inherited the ranch and also raised children of their own.

Gus passed away in 1987, but June still resides at the ranch with her son Dan and his wife Sandi. The family continues to enjoy sustained success with their crops and cattle. The Centennial Farms Program has chosen the Valentine Ranch as one of this year's honorees.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to recognize the Valentine Ranch today on the floor of the House. The ranch is a symbol of the entrepreneurial spirit our Nation has so long enjoyed and exemplified.

RECOGNIZING THE McDONALD FAMILY AS THE 2011 WALTON COUNTY OUTSTANDING FARM FAMILY OF THE YEAR

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 13, 2011

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, it is a great pleasure for me to rise today to recognize the McDonald family for being selected